

# NOT SHORT OF STOCK.

## Gloucester Fish Dealers Deny Recent Stories.

### NO COD FAMINE AT PRESENT.

#### Stock on Hand Little Smaller Than Last Year.

The following clipping from an article in a Boston paper this morning will be read with some amusement by those here who are well informed as to the actual state of affairs to which it refers:

"So scarce are fish that the big salt fishermen out of Gloucester can't get a load in a month's trip, and most of them have started into the fresh fish business. This has helped to keep the price of fresh cod from getting unusually high as yet, but salt cod has jumped to \$4.50 and \$7.55 per 100 pounds for large and medium fish respectively, prices unequalled since the Civil war. The Slade Gorton and other big packers in Gloucester are all nearly out of fish, and their demand may double the existing prices. This, fishermen think, will bring the big schooners back to salt fishing again, and even cause the salt packers to buy up fresh fish from the market."

Anybody reading the first sentence and fathoming its meaning is deserving of a prize. Our big salt bankers consider from two and a half to three months not too long to be gone for a trip of salt cod, so the ludicrousness of expressing surprise because they cannot fill up in a month can be readily seen.

Now the next sentence in regard to the price of salt cod, \$4.50 and \$7.55, as unequalled since the civil war. This price refers only to Georges handline cod, the finest fish caught, and last sales were at \$4.50 and \$3.50, but this is no record figure, for Georges cod have sold at higher figures several times within the past three years."

In regard to the sentence about Slade Gorton & Co. and other big packers being nearly all out of fish, we append the following interviews given the TIMES this morning.

Mr. Thomas J. Carroll of Slade Gorton & Co.—"I believe that the stock we have on hand at present is as large as any year at this time, with but few exceptions."

Mr. Charles H. Reed of Reed & Gamage—"Our stock on hand is as large as it was last year at this time and everybody knows what that means."

Other big dealers were also seen and their remarks were in the same tenor, all having large stocks on hand.

One big concern has 2400 butts of fish on its wharf, and as this means about 2,500,000 pounds, it does not look like a short stock there.

The facts of the case are simply these. The salt bank catch was better than the average, the shakers have not done as well as last year, the Rips and Georgesmen have not landed as many fish as they did last season. Bait is scarce and this has affected the catch in many instances. Prices have ruled high for fish out of the vessel, caused first, by a practical cleaning out of stock before spring trips arrived, and second, by the combined arrival of Rips and Georges codfishermen with fares below the average.

These high prices from the vessel meant higher prices on the road, and in consequence the demand has been lighter and trade has been slacker than at this time last year. Therefore the firms are ready with good stocks of fish to meet the fall trade, which begins to boom about September 10.

It is generally conceded that prices will hold high for fall fares if trade orders of the usual volume are received, and it is also probable that all the fish landed will be needed before next spring's first salt fares come along. This, however, will suit the dealers who would prefer to start the next season with butts nearly empty than have to carry over a big stock of the previous season's catch.

The dealers, while they are aware of the shortage of salt cod, have no hesitation in saying that all talk of a codfish "famine" at present, with the stock there is on hand, is incorrect and entirely baseless.

Aug. 27."

## SEASON'S LARGEST MACKEREL FARES.

### Str. Alice M. Jacobs and Sch. Constellation Have Them.

#### Both Are at Boston Today from Maine Coast.

#### Each Craft Has More Than 700 Bar- rels Fresh and Salt.

Steamer Alice M. Jacobs, Capt. Solomon Jacobs and sch. Constellation, Capt. Thaddeus Morgan, are at Boston today with the largest mackerel fares of the season.

Capt. Jacobs came in here yesterday afternoon with 350 barrels of salt mackerel and 35,000 fresh mackerel in count. The TIMES bulletin soon announced his arrival and big fare and Capt. Jacobs and his trip were the talk of the town last evening.

The steamer lay here until 6 o'clock, when she steamed off for Boston, arriving there at 8.40 o'clock, after a fine run.

Later last night the other big fare came along, Capt. Morgan in the Constellation coming in here with a regular dandy, 300 barrels of salt mackerel and 400 barrels of fresh mackerel. He made only a brief stop and then gave her the gasoline for Boston.

This morning both fares were on the market the fish selling for 10 1-2 cents apiece, a big drop from yesterday's price of 17 and 18 cents apiece, but even at the going figures both skippers will come out well on their fresh ones.

Capt. Jacobs reports getting his fresh mackerel and part of his salt ones, Wednesday morning from 15 to 20 miles southeast of Mount Desert Rock. About 14 sail of seiners were there and most of them took some fish. There was a good body of fish there and the schools were working to the northward. Capt. Jacobs reports that with Nourmahal and a haul of 150 barrels, Arcturion about 200 barrels and Mary A. Gousson 100. Scho. E. F. Maher, James S. Steele, Fatima, Buzanza were there and got hauls of from 50 to 100 barrels. Capt.

Jacobs says these fish are not like those caught in the Bay of Fundy, but are white bellied and resemble the fish taken off Block Island only they are very fat and of fine quality; the prettiest fish he has seen this year, Capt. Jacobs calls them.

In speaking of the prospect he said it certainly looked good.

Capt. Morgan of the Constellation got his fresh mackerel at the same time and place as did Capt. Jacobs.

Notwithstanding the fall off in price of fresh mackerel, both vessels will probably make the biggest stocks of the season, each standing to get in the vicinity of \$20,000, which means a splendid share for the crews of both crafts.

Capt. Jacobs has stocked \$2400 on fresh and salt mackerel landed down east since going out on this trip, so his stock for the trip will be \$10,000 or better, which will be the largest stock ever made on a seining trip. Capt. Jacobs, after the proceeds of this trip are figured, will have a stock for thus far this season of about \$30,000 which puts him more firmly than ever in the high line position of the seining fleet.

Capt. Morgan has been striking his gait recently and this big trip reminds one of his large fares of last season. Like Capt. Jacobs this big fare of his will probably result in a stock of about \$20,000, which is a mighty big lift and places him at the head of the gasoline division of the seining fleet.

Sch. Richard Lester, Capt. Nelson Fisher,



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s at Boston today with 100 barrels of salt mackerel and 75 barrels of fresh mackerel.

Nova Scotia fresh mackerel are selling for 8 cents apiece at Boston today.

Steamer Vigilant and A. B. Nickerson which have been cruising in Boston Bay for some time, put into Provincetown last night and reported seeing no signs of mackerel.

At Philadelphia yesterday 319 barrels of Irish mackerel were received.

Two hundred and five barrels of fresh mackerel were received at Boston yesterday from Yarmouth, N. S., and 239 barrels fresh mackerel are en route from Port Hawkesbury, C. B.

Swordfishermen report mackerel schooling 30 miles east of Minot's light.

The exclusive news of lots of mackerel on the Cape Shore as published in yesterday's TIMES is borne out by another despatch received from Halifax, stating that 50,000 mackerel were taken off there Tuesday.

Sch. Saladin, Capt. Flar McKown, stocked \$5009.55 on her recent trip, the crew sharing \$112.35.

The fare of sch. Saladin sold to the Gloucester Mackerel Co. at \$15 per barrel.

There are 1300 barrels of fresh mackerel at Boston today from Halifax, N. S.

Sch. Nettie H. Perry was at Boston yesterday with 8000 fresh mackerel.

## LARGE SCHOOLS OF MACKEREL

Struck In Yesterday on the  
Nova Scotia Coast.

BIG HAUL MADE OFF CANSO.

Large Number Also Taken Off  
Halifax.

A special to the TIMES this morning from its regular Halifax, N. S., correspondent states that dispatches received there last night tell of mackerel schooling off Canso, N. S. One seine took 16,000 fish in count yesterday, and the mackerel are reported plentiful all along shore there. One trap at Liverpool took 40 barrels. A large number were caught off Halifax and more hauls are looked for.

Sch. Saladin, which arrived this morning with such a large fare got her last fish on the "Monhegan Fall grounds." Other vessels were there and schs. Constellation and Mary E. Harty got hauls. The fish seemed to be quite plentiful but wild.

The fares of schs. Procyon and Rigel sold to George Perkins & Son at \$15.50 per barrel for rimmed and \$14.75 for early plain fish.

The fresh mackerel of sch. Saladin sold to John Nagle at 15 cents apiece.

### WHALES STRANDED.

Residents of St. Mary's Bay Round  
Up Big School.

A despatch from St. John's, says that a school of 143 whales were driven ashore yesterday at St. Mary's bay, and were unable to retreat. Men and women waded waist deep into the water and killed them all with hatchets, scythes and pitchforks.

### St. Pierre Notes.

Every day vessels are arriving at St. Pierre, Miquelon, with no fish owing mainly to scarcity of bait, which cannot be procured. After three weeks fishing a vessel recently arrived with 400 dogfish and 20 cod. Green fish is now being bought at St. Pierre for 20 francs a quintal. They are offering people who came from the shore \$3.50 per barrel for dry caplin. Matters are looking very gloomy for the coming winter. Two large houses have already failed, with considerable liabilities, and many others it is thought will go under during the next few months. The trial of the people who resisted the gendarmes when the Christian Brothers were deported is now on. They belong to the leading families in the place and excitement runs high over the matter. The friends of these people and pretty well the whole populace say that when the time comes for the nuns to leave they will resist such action with might and main and bloodshed it is feared will be the result.—St. John's, N. F., Herald.

### CAUGHT A SHARK.

Was Nibbling Cod from Hook of  
Beverly Boat.

Fishing sloop Rough Rider, Capt. Charles Chapman, arrived at Beverly on Tuesday with a 200-pound shark, the monster being captured owing to his greediness.

Capt. Chapman was fishing off the Middle grounds one afternoon recently, when he began hooking some big cod. Half a dozen times when he pulled a fish to the surface the fisherman found it was half gone, and he at once surmised that a shark was in the neighborhood.

With a big cod for bait he held it just under the water, and, when the hungry shark made a dash for the fish, Chapman used his sword-fish iron to good effect, and drove it deep into the shark. The big fish made a game fight, but was soon landed, and the tape showed that he was over eight feet in length.

### BAIT AT NEWFOUNDLAND.

Much Needed Article Strike In  
on West Coast.

Fishing Has Been Worst in Col-  
ony's History.

News comes from the west coast of Newfoundland that the fishing in that part of the colony is the worst in its history. Prospects for the winter are gloomy. Bait has struck in on the coast, but the fisheries cannot but be a total failure now, owing to the lateness at which bait was obtainable.

There is no bait at Provincetown. There appears to be plenty of squid in the harbor but they will not jig.

### Fish Commission Figures.

The United States Fish Commission statistics for July show that for the month there was landed at this port 1,921,115 pounds of fresh fish and 9,015,980 pounds of salt fish, all valued at \$378,960. At Boston 5,808,163 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$178,344 were landed.

### Good Stock.

Sch. Niagara, Capt. Adelbert Nickerson, stocked \$2900 on her recent big halibut trip, weighing off 72,000 pounds, the crew sharing \$70.20.

### Halibut at Boston.

Sch. Squanto, Capt. John McKay, is at Boston today with 65,000 pounds of halibut.

### DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

#### To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Ella G. King, Georges, 28,000 lbs. cod.

Sch. Caroline Vought, La Have Bank, 30,000 lbs. fresh cod, 40,000 lbs. hake, 30,000 lbs. cusk.

Sch. Olga, La Have Bank, 85,000 lbs. fresh mixed fish.

Sch. Rob Roy, Maine Coast, 187 bb's. salt mackerel.

#### Today's Market.

Board of trade prices: Large handline Georges cod, \$4.25 per cwt. medium do., \$3.50; large trawl Georges, \$4.00; medium do., \$3.25; handline cod from deck, caught east of Cape Sable, \$4.00; medium do., \$3.25; large trawl qank cod, \$3.25; medium do., \$2.75; large dory handline cod, \$3.50; medium do., \$3.00.

Board of Trade splitting prices on fresh fish—All cod caught on Le Have Bank and to the westward, large \$2.00; medium, \$1.50; all cod caught to the eastward of Le Have Bank, large, \$2.00; medium, \$1.50; snapper cod fish, 40 cts.; cusk, \$1.30; haddock, 85 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, 50 cts.

Outside sales Georges cod, \$4.50 per hundred weight for large and \$3.50 for medium.

Outside sales Rips cod, \$4.15 per hundred weight for large and \$3.55 for medium.

Ipswich Bay pollock, 45 cts. per cwt.

Bank halibut, 8cts per lb. for white and 5 1-2 cents for gray.

Salt mackerel, round, \$15.50 per bbl.; early plain fish, \$14.75 per bbl.

Fresh Mackerel 15 cts. each.

#### Boston.

Sch. Constellation, 300 bbls. salt mackerel, 400 bbls. fresh mackerel.

Steamer Alice M. Jacobs, 340 bbls. salt mackerel, 35,000 fresh mackerel in count.

Sch. Richard Lester, 100 bbls. salt mackerel, 75 bbls. fresh mackerel.

Fresh mackerel 10 1-2 cts. each.